

AB  
3/10

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0123
Expires:	April 30, 2013
Estimated average burden	
hours per response . . .	12.00



11018977

ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT  
FORM X-17A-5  
PART III

SEC Mail Processing  
Section

SEC FILE NUMBER
8 - 50372

FEB 28 2011

\*KH 3/9

FACING PAGE  
Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 01/01/10 AND ENDING 12/31/10  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER:

Williams Trading, LLC

OFFICIAL USE ONLY
FIRM ID. NO.

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)

860 Canal Street

(No. and Street)

Stamford

Connecticut

06902

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT

David B. Williams

(203) 353-7670

(Area Code -- Telephone No.)

B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*

Rothstein, Kass & Company, P.C.

(Name -- if individual, state last, first, middle name)

4 Becker Farm Road

Roseland

Roseland

07068

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

- ☒ Certified Public Accountant  
☐ Public Accountant  
☐ Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See section 240.17a-5(e)(2).

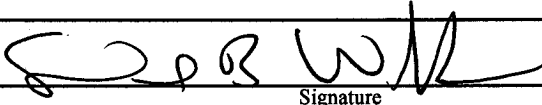
SEC 1410 (06-02)

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

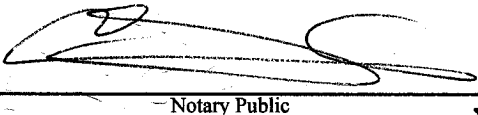
KH 3/15

## OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, David B. Williams, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Williams Trading, LLC, as of December 31, 20 10, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:

  
Signature

MANAGING MEMBER  
Title

  
Notary Public

**YOUSSEF KHAMMOUCH**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC**  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 30, 2014

This report\*\* contains (check all applicable boxes):

- ☒ (a) Facing page.
- ☒ (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- ☒ (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- ☒ (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.
- ☒ (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietor's Capital.
- ☐ (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
- ☒ (g) Computation of Net Capital.
- ☒ (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- ☒ (i) Information Relating to the Possession or control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- ☐ (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation, of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-1 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- ☒ (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- ☒ (l) An Oath or Affirmation.
- ☐ (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- ☐ (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.
- ☒ (o) Independent auditor's report on internal accounting control.
- ☐ (p) Schedule of segregation requirements and funds in segregation--customers' regulated commodity futures account pursuant to Rule 171-5.

\*\*For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

**WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF  
FINANCIAL CONDITION  
AND  
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

**DECEMBER 31, 2010**

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **CONTENTS**

---

<b>Independent Auditors' Report</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Consolidated Financial Statement</b>	
Consolidated Statement of Financial Condition	<b>2</b>
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statement	<b>3-12</b>

Certified  
Public  
Accountants

Rothstein, Kass & Company, P.C.  
4 Becker Farm Road  
Roseland, NJ 07068  
tel 973.994.6666  
fax 973.994.0337  
www.rkco.com

Beverly Hills  
Dallas  
Denver  
Grand Cayman  
Irvine  
New York  
Roseland  
San Francisco  
Walnut Creek

# Rothstein Kass

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Member of  
Williams Trading, LLC

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statement of financial condition of Williams Trading, LLC and Subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") as of December 31, 2010. This consolidated statement of financial condition is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this consolidated statement of financial condition based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement of financial condition is free of material misstatement. An audit includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the statement of financial condition, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall statement of financial condition presentation. We believe that our audit of the statement of financial condition provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated statement of financial condition referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Williams Trading, LLC and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2010, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*Rothstein, Kass & Company, P.C.*

Roseland, New Jersey  
February 23, 2011

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION**

**December 31, 2010**

### **ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,529,591
Receivables from clearing brokers, including clearing deposits of \$2,750,000	4,769,715
Commissions receivable	661,654
Securities owned, at fair value	314,958
Investment in private company, at fair value	100,000
Property and equipment, net	294,622
Other assets	<u>121,489</u>
	<u>\$ 9,792,029</u>

### **LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

#### **Liabilities,**

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 2,330,830
---------------------------------------	--------------

#### **Equity**

Member's equity	7,790,299
Non-controlling interest	9,125
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	<u>(338,225)</u>
Total equity	<u>7,461,199</u>
	<u>\$ 9,792,029</u>

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### **1. Nature of business**

Williams Trading, LLC ("Williams Trading") is a New York limited liability company, formed in July 1997 and commencing operations in March 1998 as an approved broker-dealer. Williams Trading is registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"), the NYSE ARCA Exchange ("NQX"), and the NASDAQ exchange.

Williams Trading operations are also conducted through its wholly-owned and majority owned subsidiaries.

Williams Trading (UK) Limited ("Williams UK"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Williams Trading, is an entity that is the majority owner (98%) of Williams Trading Europe, LLP ("Williams Europe"). Williams Europe commenced operations March 16, 2006, as a registered broker-dealer with the Financial Services Authority ("FSA") located in the United Kingdom.

Williams Trading Canada, ULC ("Williams Canada"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Williams Trading, was incorporated in Alberta, Canada in January 2008 and commenced operations in Montreal, Canada in May 2008. Williams Canada is a registered broker dealer with the Ontario Securities Commission. As of January 23, 2010, Williams Canada has ceased operations.

Williams Helo, LLC ("Williams Helo"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Williams Trading, is an entity that owns a share of a helicopter.

Williams Trading, Williams UK, Williams Europe and Williams Canada (collectively, the "Company") executes trades with or on behalf of, and earns commissions from, managers of private investment funds ("clients") and also conducts trading activity for its own account.

### **2. Summary of significant accounting policies**

#### *Principles of Consolidation*

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Williams Trading, Williams Helo, Williams UK, Williams Canada and Williams Europe. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation.

#### *Basis of Presentation*

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

These financial statements were approved by management and available for issuance on February 23, 2011. Subsequent events have been evaluated through this date.

#### *Cash and Cash Equivalents*

For purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid investments with remaining maturities of three months or less at acquisition to be cash equivalents.

# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### *Securities Owned, at Fair Value*

Securities owned which consist of equity securities, corporate bonds, and options are valued at market and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in revenues.

#### *Receivables from Clearing Brokers and Commissions Receivable*

The amounts receivable from broker and commissions receivable arise in the ordinary course of business and are pursuant to clearing agreements with the various clearing firms.

#### *Revenue and Expense Recognition from Securities Transactions*

Securities transactions and the related commission and trading revenues and expenses are recorded on the trade-date basis and unrealized gains and losses are reflected in revenues.

#### *Investment Banking*

Investment banking revenues are recorded in accordance with the terms of the investment banking agreements.

#### *Property and Equipment*

Property and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. The Company provides for depreciation and amortization as follows:

Asset	Estimated Useful Life	Principal Method
Furniture and fixtures	3-5 Years	Straight-line
Telecommunication and other equipment	3-5 Years	Straight-line
Computer hardware and software	3-5 Years	Straight-line
Leasehold improvements	Lease Term	Straight-line
Helicopter share	5 Years	Straight-line

#### *Impairment of Long-Lived Assets*

In accordance with GAAP, long-lived assets, are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be fully recoverable. If an impairment indicator is present, the Company evaluates recoverability by a comparison of the carrying amount of the assets to future undiscounted net cash flows expected to be generated by the assets. If the assets are impaired, the impairment recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount exceeds the estimated fair value of the assets. There was no impairment of long-lived assets recorded during the year ended December 31, 2010.



# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### *Foreign Currency Translation*

Foreign currency transactions and the financial statements of Williams Trading foreign subsidiaries are translated into U.S. dollars at prevailing or current rates respectively, except for revenues and expenses which are translated at average currency rates during the reporting period. Exchange gains and losses resulting from foreign currency transactions are recognized currently. Gains and losses resulting from translation of financial statements are excluded from the consolidated statement of operations and are reported as a separate component of member's equity. The annual currency translation adjustment increased member's equity by approximately \$406,000 at December 31, 2010.

#### *Comprehensive Income*

The Company reports and displays comprehensive income (loss) and its components in member's equity. The components of other comprehensive income (loss), such as changes in foreign currency translation adjustments are added to net income to arrive at comprehensive income. Other comprehensive income (loss) items have no impact on net income as presented in the consolidated statement of operations and comprehensive income.

#### *Income Taxes*

The Company is a limited liability company, and treated as a partnership for income tax reporting purposes. The Internal Revenue Code ("IRC") provides that any income or loss is passed through to the members for federal and state income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Company has not provided for federal or state income taxes. Williams UK is subject to corporation tax at the rate of 28%. Williams Canada is subject to corporate tax at both the federal and local level having an effective rate of approximately 28%.

At December 31, 2010, management has determined that the Company had no uncertain tax positions that would require financial statement recognition. This determination will always be subject to ongoing reevaluation as facts and circumstances may require. The Company remains subject to U.S. federal and state income tax audits, as well as foreign tax audits for all periods subsequent to 2007.

# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### *Valuation of Investments in Securities at Fair Value - Definition and Hierarchy*

In accordance with GAAP, fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

In determining fair value, the Company uses various valuation approaches. In accordance with GAAP, a fair value hierarchy for inputs is used in measuring fair value that maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the most observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Company. Unobservable inputs reflect the Company's assumptions about the inputs market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. The fair value hierarchy is categorized into three levels based on the inputs as follows:

*Level 1* - Valuations based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Company has the ability to access. Valuation adjustments and block discounts are not applied to Level 1 securities. Since valuations are based on quoted prices that are readily and regularly available in an active market, valuation of these securities does not entail a significant degree of judgment.

*Level 2* - Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active or for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

*Level 3* - Valuations based on inputs that are unobservable and significant to the overall fair value measurement.

The availability of valuation techniques and observable inputs can vary from security to security and is affected by a wide variety of factors including, the type of security, whether the security is new and not yet established in the marketplace, and other characteristics particular to the transaction. To the extent that valuation is based on models or inputs that are less observable or unobservable in the market, the determination of fair value requires more judgment. Those estimated values do not necessarily represent the amounts that may be ultimately realized due to the occurrence of future circumstances that cannot be reasonably determined.

Because of the inherent uncertainty of valuation, those estimated values may be materially higher or lower than the values that would have been used had a ready market for the securities existed. Accordingly, the degree of judgment exercised by the Company in determining fair value is greatest for securities categorized in Level 3. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, for disclosure purposes, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement in its entirety falls, is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Fair value is a market-based measure considered from the perspective of a market participant rather than an entity-specific measure. Therefore, even when market assumptions are not readily available, the Company's own assumptions are set to reflect those that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. The Company uses prices and inputs that are current as of the measurement date, including periods of market dislocation. In periods of market dislocation, the observability of prices and inputs may be reduced for many securities. This condition could cause a security to be reclassified to a lower level within the fair value hierarchy.

# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### Investments in Securities

The Company values investments in securities and securities sold short that are freely tradable and are listed on a national securities exchange or reported on the NASDAQ national market at their last sales price as of the last business day of the year.

#### Corporate Bonds

The fair value of corporate bonds is estimated using recently executed transactions, market price quotations (where observable), bond spreads or credit default swap spreads. The spread data used is for the same maturity as the bond. If the spread data does not reference the issuer, then data that references a comparable issuer is used. When observable price quotations are not available, fair value is determined based on cash flow models with yield curves, bond or single name credit default swap spreads and recovery rates based on collateral values as key inputs. Corporate bonds are usually in Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy, since the Company is a market maker in these positions and they are trading in an active market.

#### *Valuation Techniques: Investment in Private Investment Company*

Investments in private investment companies are typically valued utilizing the net asset valuations provided by the underlying private investment companies and/or their administrators. The company considers subscription and redemption rights, including any restrictions on the disposition of the interest in its determination of fair value. Investment in private investment company is included in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

#### *Non-Controlling Interest*

The consolidated subsidiaries that are less than wholly owned are referred to as non-controlling interests. The portion of net income attributable to non-controlling interests for such subsidiaries is presented as net income applicable to non-controlling interests on the consolidated statement of operations, and the portion of equity of such subsidiaries is presented as non-controlling interests on the consolidated statement of financial condition and consolidated statement of changes in equity.

#### *Reclassifications*

Certain 2009 amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2010 presentation.

#### *Use of Estimates*

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. In particular, estimates have been made in reference to the other investment valuations. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 3. Fair value measurements

The Company's assets recorded at fair value have been categorized based upon a fair value hierarchy as described in the Company's significant accounting policies in Note 2.

The following table presents information about the Company's assets measured at fair value as of December 31, 2010:

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)</b>	<b>Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)</b>	<b>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</b>	<b>Balance December 31, 2010</b>
Securities owned, at fair value				
Equity securities	\$ 54,816	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,816
Corporate Bonds	260,142			260,142
Investment in private company	-	-	100,000	100,000
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 314,958	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 414,958

The following table presents additional information about Level 3 assets measured at fair value. Both observable and unobservable inputs may be used to determine the fair value of positions that the Company has classified within the Level 3 category. As a result, the unrealized gains and losses for assets within the Level 3 category may include changes in fair value that were attributable to both observable (e.g., changes in market interest rates) and unobservable (e.g., changes in unobservable long-dated volatilities) inputs.

# WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES

## NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### 3. Fair value measurements (continued)

Changes in Level 3 assets measured at fair value for the year ended December 31, 2010 were as follows:

Asset	Level 3 Beginning Balance January 1, 2010	Realized and Unrealized Gains (losses)	Purchases, Sales and Settlements	Net Transfers In and/or (Out) of Level 3	Level 3 Ending Balance December 31, 2010	Change in Unrealized Gains (Losses) for Investments Still Held at December 31, 2010
Investment in private company	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ -

### 4. Property and equipment

Property and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 2010:

Furniture and fixtures	\$ 307,286
Telecommunication and other equipment	325,234
Computer hardware and software	1,304,531
Leasehold improvements	551,750
Helicopter share	175,000
	<u>2,663,801</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>2,369,179</u>
	<u>\$ 294,622</u>

### 5. Related party transactions

During 2010, the Company received approximately \$150,000 for management fees pursuant to an administrative services agreement with Williams Europe. This amount has been eliminated in the presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### **6. Commitments**

The Company is obligated under an operating lease agreement for office space, expiring through March 2013, which provides for approximate aggregate future minimum rental payments, excluding rent escalation based on operating costs, as follows:

<b>Year ending December 31,</b>	
2011	\$ 436,000
2012	404,000
2013	16,000

In February 2010, the Company terminated its operating agreement for the Canadian office as Williams Canada ceased operations. The Company was obligated to pay approximately \$11,000 in lease termination fees.

Williams Trading has a partial sub-lease arrangement for a portion of their office space. Williams Trading received approximately \$147,000 in connection with this arrangement during 2010.

Williams Europe rents office space under a Tenancy at Will agreement. The agreement calls for monthly rental payments determined at the daily rate of \$279 or approximately \$102,000 for the year ending December 31, 2010. Williams Europe has a partial sub-lease arrangement for a portion of their office space in which they received approximately \$54,000 during 2010.

For the year ended December 31, 2010, rent expense for the Company, net of amounts received under the sub-lease arrangements, including escalation charges, was approximately \$396,000.

### **7. Net capital requirement**

Williams Trading is subject to the SEC Uniform Net Capital Rule 15c3-1. This Rule requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1 and that equity capital may not be withdrawn if the resulting net capital ratio would exceed 10 to 1. At December 31, 2010, Williams Trading's net capital was approximately \$5,365,000 which was approximately \$5,115,000 in excess of its minimum requirement of \$250,000.

### **8. Off-balance sheet risk and concentration of credit risk**

The Company is exposed to off-balance sheet risk of loss on unsettled transactions in the event that other counterparties are unable to fulfill their contractual obligations.

The clearing operation for securities transactions are provided by three brokers. These brokers are members of major securities exchanges. At December 31, 2010, all of the securities owned and the amounts due from brokers reflected in the consolidated statement of financial condition are positions held by, and amounts due from, such brokers. Amounts due from brokers may be restricted to the extent that they serve as deposits for securities sold, not yet purchased. The Company is subject to credit risk should these brokers be unable to fulfill their obligations to return the Company's securities or repay amounts owed. Substantially all of the Company's receivables from brokers relate to cash balances on deposit and \$2,750,000 in aggregate required by the clearing brokers to be maintained on deposit.

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

---

### **8. Off-balance sheet risk and concentration of credit risk (continued)**

Securities sold, but not yet purchased represent obligations of the Company to deliver the specific security at the contracted price and thereby create a liability to repurchase the security in the market at prevailing prices. Accordingly, these transactions result in off-balance sheet risk, as the Company's ultimate obligation to satisfy the sale of securities sold, but not yet purchased may exceed the amount recognized in the consolidated statement of financial condition. Securities positions are monitored on a daily basis to minimize the risk of loss. As part of its trading strategy, the Company uses derivative financial instruments. Credit risk and market risk exist with respect to these instruments. There were no securities sold, but not yet purchased at December 31, 2010.

The Company clears all of its securities transactions through the clearing brokers on a fully disclosed basis. Pursuant to the terms of the agreements between the Company and the clearing brokers, the clearing broker has the right to charge the Company for losses that result from a counterparty's failure to fulfill its contractual obligations. As the right to charge the Company has no maximum amount and applies to all trades executed through the clearing brokers, the Company believes there is no maximum amount assignable to this right. At December 31, 2010, the Company has recorded no liabilities with regard to the right. In addition, the Company has the right to pursue collection or performance from the counterparties who do not perform under their contractual obligations. The Company monitors the credit standing of the clearing brokers and all counterparties with which it conducts business.

In the normal course of business, the Company has receivables and payables for financial instruments sold to and purchased from brokers and dealers. The Company is exposed to risk of loss from the inability of these brokers and dealers to pay for or to deliver the financial instruments sold, in which case the Company would have to sell or purchase the financial instruments at the prevailing market prices. However, the Company mitigates risk by dealing with large NQX or FINRA member firms and through a variety of reporting and control procedures.

From time to time, the Company will maintain cash balances in a financial institution that may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ("FDIC") coverage of \$250,000. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not subject to any significant credit risk on cash.

### **9. Retirement plan**

Effective January 1, 2004, the Company's Money Purchase Pension Plan was merged into its 401(k) Profit-Sharing Plan (the "Plan"). The Plan is for the benefit of all eligible employees that may make voluntary contributions to the Plan which cannot exceed \$16,500 per annum. Company contributions to the Plan are at the discretion of management. The Company contributed approximately \$300,000 to the Plan during the year, which is included in accounts payable and accrued expenses in the consolidated statement of financial condition at December 31, 2010.

### **10. Exemption from Rule 15c3-3**

The Company is exempt from the SEC Rule 15c3-3 pursuant to the exemptive provisions under sub-paragraph (k)(2)(ii) and, therefore, is not required to maintain a "Special Reserve Bank Account for the Exclusive Benefit of Customers."

At December 31, 2010, the balance in this account was approximately \$825,000, whereas the required amount to be maintained was approximately \$885,000. On January 7, 2011 funds in excess of the required amount were transferred into the Special Reserve Bank Account to cover the difference.

# **WILLIAMS TRADING, LLC AND SUBSIDIARIES**

## **NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

---

### **11. Major customer**

During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company had one major customer that aggregated approximately 19% of total revenues.